

Ellis Island Oral Interview

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Education Department
Ellis Island Immigration Museum
Statue of Liberty National Monument



Interviewee: Ranin Ali

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Interviewer: Peter Wong

Audio Engineer: Kevin Daley

High School: South Shore High School (Brooklyn)

Interview for the Groundswell Mural Project

Ranin Ali :

How has the artistic process in creating these murals changed your life?

It gave me a new look on immigration because the first years of my schooling (in my middle school) people thought about immigrants as badly and they'll just call people 'oh, you immigrants,' 'oh, you foreign' and I thought being an immigrant was bad but when I came here (to Groundswell) I noticed that it was something normal. The panels, the projects, they value immigration and I was like 'oh why would people call it that way, it was so ignorant' Now, I feel better about calling myself an immigrant."